SCHOOL BUILDING & CITIZENSHIP

A4LE Northeast |
AIA CAE
April 12, 2018
10:15am
AGENDA

Topic Introduction
Panel Member Contextual Stories
Moderator Q&A
Audience Q&A
Wrap Up
How can school facilities be leveraged as broader community assets to enhance citizenship?

How can the process of planning, designing, and building school facilities be leveraged to enhance citizenship?
LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Participants will be able to describe the fundamental concepts of cultivating citizenship
- Participants will be able to describe strategies for utilizing the planning, design, and construction process to bring together a community
- Participants will be able to describe best practices for designing school facilities to foster student engagement and cultivate citizenship
- Participants will learn case study examples of innovative practices for planning and designing facilities that support broader community needs
SCHOOL BUILDING & CITIZENSHIP

PANEL

DAVID LEVER, R.A., D.A.
Educational Facilities Planning LLC

SARAH WOODHEAD, AIA, NCARB
DLR Group

MILTON NAGEL, CPA
Caroline County Public Schools (MD)

Beth Penfield, ALEP Brailsford & Dunlavey MODERATOR
A “government resting upon popular suffrage cannot be successful unless those who elect and who obey their governors are educated.”

John Dewey, *Democracy and Education*, 1916

“Upon our educational system must largely depend the perpetuity of those institutions upon which our freedom and our security rest. To prepare each citizen to choose wisely and to enable him to choose freely are paramount functions of the schools in a democracy.”

Franklin D. Roosevelt, “Message for American Education Week”, 1938
“formal democratic institutions are not enough for the survival of self-governance; we also need a citizenry equipped to grapple with important moral questions.”

“Putting Democracy Back into Public Education”

“Explicit Curriculum”:
• Revitalized civics/history courses, honest discussion of the American story
• The perils of non-democratic forms of government
• Debate on issues of importance
• Community service requirements

“Implicit Curriculum”:
• Integration: socioeconomic, racial, ethnic
• Equitable access to educational opportunity
• Parents and community members are involved in decision-making
• Teachers have influence in policies and practices

IN ADDITION: SCHOOL CLIMATE, INCLUDING THE SCHOOL FACILITY
Explicit Curriculum Opportunities:

• Illustrate decision-making in government
• Understand the importance of funding and financing
• Debate opportunities:
  
  How can student government be made visible in the design?
  How does design impact the environment?
  How can community needs be incorporated into the design?
• Service opportunities: A plan for student involvement in caring for the facility
Implicit Curriculum Opportunities:
- Educational specification process includes all stakeholders
- Community outreach process: meetings, survey, website
- Design review process
- Post-occupancy evaluation process
Explicit Curriculum Opportunities:
• Venues for debate and discussion
• Community service spaces

Implicit Curriculum Opportunities:
• All curricular opportunities: visible, accessible to all
• Integration of special education
• Integration of magnet programs

Schooling “is the very foundation of good citizenship.”
CIVIC DESIGN AND CITIZENSHIP

Scottsdale, Arizona - Civic Center Mall

Scottsdale City Hall
Bennie M. Gonzales Associates, 1968
Caroline County, MD
Population: 33,900
Small, rural school system
10 schools, 5,600 students
CAROLINE COUNTY

Challenges

- Location:
  - Limited number of contractors and trade
  - Delaware firms do not need the Maryland work and/or do not want to spend the time becoming MBE certified.
- Prevailing wage requirements
- Limited State funds requires project durations to be extended which increases costs
- Impact of last recession: firms are not increasing workforces
PRESTON ELEMENTARY
Phased Occupied Renovation & Addition

- Preston: 560 residents – stabilized area
- Preston Area: 4,000 residents – non growth area
- Preston Elementary: State Rated Capacity 441 students
PRESTON ELEMENTARY

Opportunities

- During Planning & Design

- Building Design:
  - Construction of new gymnasium – partnership with Recreation and Parks
  - Construction of new wellness center – partnership with Choptank Community Health
I-beam – signed by all students and staff at Preston Elementary, Board members, town and county Commissioners
New gymnasium
SCHOOL BUILDING & CITIZENSHIP

New cafeteria
ON A PERSONAL NOTE:
Schools are:

- Shelters
- Polling Places
- Summer Feeding Sites
- Athletic Facilities
- Libraries
- Health Clinics
- Job Training Centers
- Food Banks
- Childcare Centers
- Social Hubs
- Adult Ed Centers
- Parks & Recreation Facilities
HOW CAN A SCHOOL FOSTER CITIZENSHIP?

3 strategies:

Welcome community through the planning and design process; and by inviting them into the school;

Strengthen teachers by providing a building that is a resource; and by encouraging collaboration;

Empower children to be the agents of their learning by making school a safe, healthy, and child-centered place.
EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES DURING PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

Arlington: BLPCs
DC Schools: SITs
PGCPS: Project Planning Committees

Fundamental Values:
Meaningful
Effective
Inclusive
CASE STUDY: MAURY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
WASHINGTON, DC
Maury Elementary School

OUTDOOR STUDIO

Planting Areas

Shade Element

Seating | Moveable

- Colorful elements
- Soft “mounds” for play
- Outdoor dry erase board
IF YOU HAD TO CHOOSE BETWEEN COMPLIANT, ENGAGED, OR EMPOWERED, WHICH WORD WOULD YOU WANT TO DEFINE YOUR STUDENTS?
PANEL DISCUSSION

Beth Penfield
Moderator